

A
PETITION

Against the
JEWES,

Presented to the

Kings Majestie

AND THE

PARLIAMENT.

Together with

Several REASONS, proving the East-India
Trade, the *Turkey* Trade, the East-Coun-
try Trade, may all be driven without Trans-
porting Gold or Silver out of *England*.

And also

Some Abuses in the managing those Trades set down, and wayes hum-
bly propounded for Regulating the same for the future; And for
the constant setting the Mint on Work. Besides, several Certificates
from Persons of Honour and Quality, of my faithful Services, and
great Sufferings and Losses, for his Majesties Royal Father of Blest
Memory, and his Majesty our Gracious KING CHARLES the
Second.

By *THO. VIOLET* of *London* Goldsmith.

M A T. 18. 16. That in the mouth of two Witnesses every word may be esta-
blished.

L O N D O N,

Printed in the Year 1668.

To the Right Honourable the Lord High Chancellour
of ENGLAND, the Lord STEVVARD of
his MAJESTIES Household, the Lord High
Treasurer of ENGLAND, the Lord RO-
BERTS, all of his MAJESTIES most Ho-
nourable PRIVY COUNCEL.

May it please your good Lordships,

I Receiving a command from one of
your Lordships to give my humble
Reasons how the East-India Trade,
the Turkey Trade, the East Coun-
try Trade, may be driven without
sending our gold and silver, or Forreign gold or
silver out of *England*. And Rules set for the fu-
ture to make the Trade of the Kingdome bring
in gold and silver to be coyned, and so to order
and reduce the superfluous Commodities,
which shall be Imported, that the stock of the
Kingdome in gold and silver, should dayly en-
crease, and the Mint be set on work, for the honor
of the Kings Majesty ; whereas, Trade hath
been driven for the private profit of some Mer-
chants for these last twenty years, to the wasting
of

The Epistle Dedicatory.

of the gold and silver coyns of the Nation; all our gold transported, and almost all our current silver coynes, above twenty millions of money, as *I* have demonstrated, and found experimentally to be true.

For the preventing of these abuses for the future, and for the strengthening, and enriching the Kingdome, the encrease of Trade; his Majesties honour, safety, and profit, and the enriching of the Kingdome in generall. *My* most Honored Lords, here are wayes humbly propounded.

Being in dispute with som Aldermen, and Common-Councel-men of *London*, and they reading to me my last Book over, some of them telling me, if *I* could prove my sufferings and services to be so eminent as *I* had printed: *I* should have managed my businesse in that manner, that such incredible stories should have had their vouchers and testimonials; for if they were true, they were admirable, and *I* deserved to have my estate restored, and an honourable reward.

To satisfie these unbelievers of the City of *London*, *I* have desired some worthy and honourable Persons, that were privy to my actions, to certifie their knowledg; here is enough to satisfie
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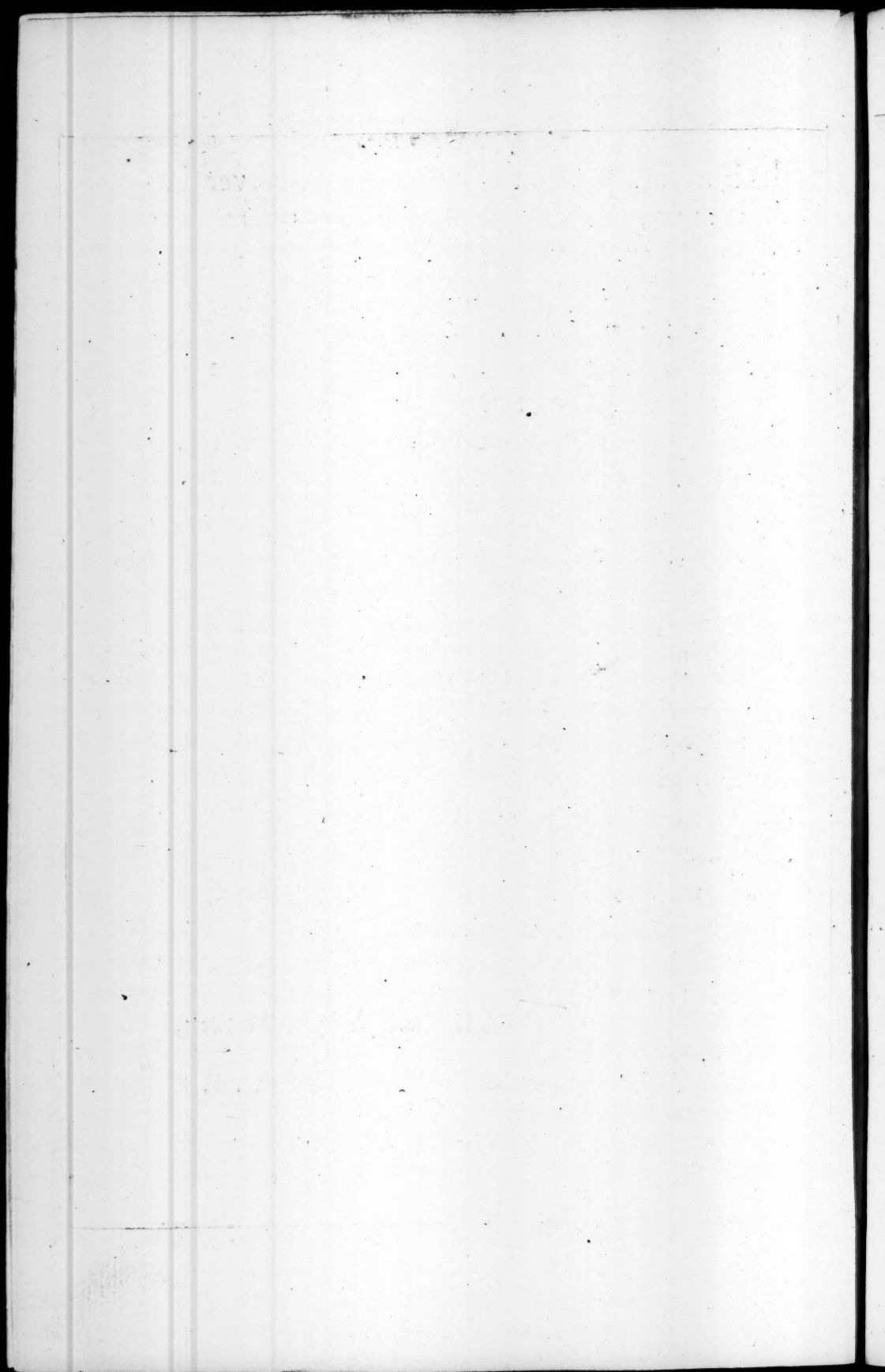
The Epistle Dedicatory.

the honourable and the just man; and several others are out of Town, which as soon as they come to London, will certifie to all the world, that I did his Majesty these following services, and many others of a higher nature, not yet known to the world, which in convenient time shall be Printed, to shew to the following Posterity, one *Violet* did his late Majesty of blessed memory more service then a thousand of the Capon eaters of London. My Lords, my humble study is to satisfie your Lordships, and all good and honourable men of my sufferings, and services, I valew not to please some of the Fox-furred-skins of the City; I have been oppressed by some of them, and watch my time to pay them acquittance; In the mean time, I humbly bow my self at your Lordships feet, and pray to be pardoned for presuming to present this Book to your Lordships, and I humbly desire your Lordships gracious and good word to his Majesty for my relief, according to equity and justice.

Jan, 1.
1661.

The Humblest of your Servants,

THO. VIOLET.



(1)

TO THE
K I N G S
most Excellent Majestie,

AND THE
L O R D S and C O M M O N S
Assembled in Parliament.

The Humble Petition of Tho. Violet Goldsmith.

May it please Your most Sacred Majestie,



Liver Cromwell, and his Secretary *Thurloe*, had several Conferences with one *Manasseh Ben-Israel*, who pretended himself to be in the nature of an High Priest to the Jewish Nation. This *Manasseh Ben-Israel* presented to *Cromwell* a Petition, wherein amongst other things he prays for the Nation of the Jewes, 1. To have liberty to erect new Synagogues or Temples amongst us, for the free publick exercise of their Jewish Worship, Customes and Religion; and they did then erect a Jewish Synagogue, and it is at this day, every day they celebrate twice in the day their superstition, their fire never goes out all the year.

2. To set up a Jewish Corporation or Fraternity amongst us, in our Cities and Corporations, subject to their own immediate peculiar Officers and Iudges, as they enjoyed it in this Nation heretofore.

3. And to purchase Lands, Houses, exercise Merchandize, and all sorts of Manufactures, as free Denizens and Merchants, upon such qualifications as shall be indulged to them.

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4. When the Iewes was under the Kings Protection, as his Vassals he did command all their estates and persons, they being the Kings slaves, whereas the King cannot legally lay a Tax on his *English* Subjects, but by Consent in Parliament, in *Rot. Parl. Edw. 1.* from the 17. Decemb. 50. *Edw. 3.* to the 2 *Rich. 2.* which was but seven yeares, these Kings received of the Iewes foure hundred and twenty thousand pounds fifteen shillings and foure pence, at which time the ounce of silver was but worth 20 d. and now is 60 d. the ounce. See *Cook Institut. p. 89.* the value at this day is twelve hundred and sixty thousand pounds sterling; so they were good milch kine to these Kings.

5. Upon several days hearing, *Cromwel* and his Council did give a Toleration and Dispensation to a great number of Iewes to come and live here in *London*, and to this day they do keep publick Worship in the City of *London*, to the great dishonour of Christianity, and publick scandal of the true Protestant Religion, and to the great damage of the Kingdome, especially our Merchants, whose Trade they engross, and eat the childrens bread: and in the *Barbadoes* they do so swarm, that had not care bin taken to banish them, in twenty years they would eat out the English: but by the care of this blessed Parliament they are within a year to be banished thence.

6. That since this Toleration many people have bin seduced, and the Iewes Exercise of their Religion, being every day solemnly kept in *London*, between seven and eight of the clock in the morning, and about three in the afternoon, multitudes of men and women seeking after novelties, and seduced by the devil, have been wavering in their Religion, and at length turned absolute Iewes, keeping Saturday for Sunday, and in many other Iewish Ceremonies are their Profelites.

7. May it please your Sacred Majestie, in stead of our procuring the Iewes to turn Christians, by granting them to live amongst us, they having taken advantage of the several mad opinions and sects abounding in the Kingdom, by this means, the Iewes have gotten many Profelites, to the great endangering of mens souls: This damage the Iewes have done the Nation in their spirituals: and for their temporals, as to matter of trade, no Ivie can hurt the Growth of a tree, and suck away the sap, more then they have damaged this Nation in point of Trade and Commeree, in carrying all before them, as will appear by some following instances, to which may be added many hundred other particulars. See what Gods Law says of them, and what the

the Laws of the Kingdom, and consider the Petition of the Merchants of London: *If any man love not the Lord Iesus Christ, let him be Anathema maranatha*, that is, separate and cast out from all Christian society and communion, 1 Cor. 16. 22. now these Iewes are such, who do not only not love, but denie, defie, and hate our Lord Iesus Christ, in the highest degree, therefore to be excluded co-habitation amongst us, John 2. 6. 7. *many Deceivers are entred into the World, who confesse not that Iesus Christ is come in the Flesh, this is a Deceiver and Antichrist*: the Iewes are these Deceivers, and absolutely deny Christ.

8. May it please your Sacred Majestie, to behold Cromwells blessed Reformation, he stops the mouths of all Orthodox Ministers, both in publick and private, not permitting them to teach School to put bread in their heads, and at the same time invites into this Nation the Iewes, who killed the Lord Iesus.

9. Seeing these Iewes, invited in by *Thurloe*, and protected by *O-liver*, my humble prayer is, that these wicked Iews cohabiting amongst us, under such Protectors and Protection, the Law may now seize on them: Let us make no Covenant with them, lest they be a snare in the midst of us, and the wrath of God burst out on us, for admitting these cursed Iewes amongst us: this is Gods Law. Now for the Laws of the Kingdom.

10. The Iewes being banished by Act of Parliament, as appears by the Records of the Tower, cannot be restored but by Act of Parliament, as is adjudged in the Case of the two *Spencers* and *Pierce Gaveston*, the printed Statute, for restoring *Belknap*, and other exiled Iudges, and *Roger Mortimer*, so that the Iewes being banished by common consent in Parliament, and their Estates and Lands sold by the King, as appears by many Records in the Tower they were, and this Act never repealed. It is Felony for any Iew to be found in *England*, by the Law, neither can any man give them Protection, but by common Consent in Parliament. And by the Statute 3 Eliz. cap. 13. Eliz. cap. 2. 23 Eliz. cap. 1. 35 Eliz. cap. 1. 3 Jac. cap. 4. against Popish Priests, Iesuites and Friars, for speedy banishing them, and keeping them perpetually out of the Realm by Law and Reason, in this regard: much more doth exclude and abolish all Iewes, Jewish Priests, Synagogues, and all such Worship, Ceremonies, and Superstition out of this Kingdom, being far more dishonourable to Christ, opposite to Christian Religion, destructive to the peoples souls, then Popish Priests are.

11. May it please your Sacred Majesty, if the Jewes be once admitted, then I humbly say, admit any Jesuites, Seminaries, Priests, or any Romish Masse, or Superstition whatsoever : and if you allow Jewes, Jewish Priests, and their superstitious Ceremonies to be practised publicly amongst us, then much more Popery, Masses, Masse-Priests, by the self-same Reason and Iustice.

12. The Jewes are so hated by the Turks, that when they would wish a man the greatest mischief imaginable, they wish he may die a Jew. And the Turks will not admit of a Jew to turn Turk, unlesse he be first baptized, that is the chief Reason so few Jewes will turn Turks, Gal. 5. 2, 3, 4. Behold, I Paul say unto you, that if you be circumcised, Christ shall profit you nothing, for I testifie again to every man that is circumcised, that he is a debtor to the whole Law, Christ is become of none effect to you : who soever of you are justified by the Law, you are fallen from grace, Iohn 1. 4, 3. Every spirit that confesseth not that Iesus Christ is come in the flesh, is not of God, and this is the spirit of Antichrist. These Jewes are the greatest Blasphemers of Christ of any people in the world, so that if they be permitted to continue amongst us, they will bring the wrath of God upon us.

13. The Jewes that are at this day tollerated in England, are either by birth Portugals, or Spaniards, for the generality of them, *Antonie Ferdinand* went for a Christian before this tolleration, and was daily at Mass at the Spanish Ambassadors : by reason of the strict correspondence the Jewes have with one anothers Tribes, they do carry the Trade from any People with whom they live, and that makes them in all Countries to unite together, and as long as they live, they cannot be made so poor, but they will grow rich presently again, by the help of their Kindred in all parts of the World, let them be destroyed in their Estates in one Country, they will go to their Kindred in another Country, and by their subtilty, and craft in Trade, in a few years get mighty Estates.

14. There wants not Spanish Merchants, and some others in London, that can tell your Sacred Majesty, that the Jewes in all Countries they come into, are generally counterfeiters of money, and adulterers of all manner of Merchandize, and the Jewes of this age, are the true Sons of their fore Fathers, not caring what tricks, and cheats they put upon Merchants, especially upon a Nation that will be so easily gulled as we wil suffer our selves to be : they have cheated this Nation above one hundred thousand pounds, in the very price of Wines, and fill the Kingdom with unnecessary commodities, and make returns with our money,
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see their importation and exportation, this will be found true, they have cozened us of many score thousand pounds of our Gold and Silver.

15. *May it please your Sacred Majesty,* I most humbly say, I have made it a great wonder, considering how the Jewes fore Fathers have been served here in *England*, as will appear by the Records of the *Tower*, they yet dare venture themselves, and their great Estates amongst us, let any man read but what our Chronicles say of them, both for their Offences, and their Punishments, it would make a man tremble to read, if God did not owe them a shame, they would never have returned for *England*; your Sacred Majesty will finde them a People, that since they crucified our Saviour, cursed of God, false, treacherous, great oppressors, adulterers of most Manufactures, and Merchandizes, and they are never admitted into any Nation, but in a few years they accumulate to themselves all the Wealth, and Trade of a Nation, and alwaies the wrath of God doth follow a people for having communion, and fellowship with them.

16. In *Turkey*, the great *Turk* makes use of them as Sponges, that suck up the wealth of the People, and there they are their Publicanes to receive their Taxes, and once in seven years, or oftner, the great *Turk* squeezes them, or shaves them, they being a kind of *Camemel*, the more you tread them, the more they grow again; where they escape with life and liberty, they never make scruple to get Riches, wheresoever they come: and for their Priest that reads *Moses* Law unto them, most an end they are also cunning Merchants, Jewellers, and it is very rare, that you shall find a fair dealing man amongst a thousand of them.

17. I shall humbly offer it to your Sacred Majesties consideration, how after ages will take it, when the History of the present times shall be writ, that the Jewes that were called in by *Thurloe* and *Cromwel*, shall in despite of the Gospel, be suffered now in these times that your Sacred Majesty is returned in peace, and yet the Jewes to live, and plant themselves among us. If by the present Lawes of this Nation no Iesuite, Popish Priest, nor Maſs be permitted, much more, I humbly say, Jewes ought to be banished, who daily blaspheme Christ, and in as much as in them lies, desires to destroy Christianity.

18. My most humble prayer to your Sacred Majesty is, that for the honour of Christ you would be pleased carefully to look what former ages hath done in *England* with these Jewes, and that the Lawes made

made against them, may be put in strict execution, and to forbid all Persons whomsoever to go, and hear, or use their Superstition, if the Parliament grant to them a tolleration in *England*, I most humbly say, you hinder the growth of Christianity, and do suffer before your Faces, in this great and populous City and Nation, the birth, death, and passion of our blessed Saviour to be contemned, scorned, and daily made a mock, to the great scandal of the Protestant Religion; their tolleration leaveneth the whole lump, and is a principal cause of the many divisions and dangerous opinions; this ought to have been the work of some other, humbly to have represented these things to your Sacred Majestie, and the Parliament, but seeing it is not as yet done by any, to my knowledg, and this superstition openly professed, God hath bid me tell your Sacred Majesty this for a truth, and to be your Majesties remembrance, I humbly leave the issue to God, I am clay in his hand.

19. If your Sacred Majesty will put this businesse vigorously on foot, according to Gods Lawes, and the Lawes of this Nation, then my humble prayer is, that your Sacred Majestie use all speed to make them answer the Law; vast treasure will be raised, if this businesse be wisely managed, your Sacred Majesty, and the Parliament, will find the blessing of God to go along with you, for restoring the honour of this Nation, by suppressing the Jewes Idolatry, and Blasphemie, and the punishing these Jewes, may be an attonement to the Nation, when your Sacred Majestie, and the Parliament, shall shew their detestation of so wicked a design, as of suffering the Jewes to make their abiding amongst us, if this tolleration should continue, and be admitted among us, it would check and hinder the growth of the Gospel of Christ.

20. My most humble prayer to your Sacred Majestie is, to take this course, for the honour of the Christian Religion, *viz.* Make this poison Mithridate, take these Jewish men and Women, whom you will find in *London*, in the Net of the Law, which your Sacred Majestie may do, both by the Laws of God, and this Nation, as a grave Iudg now living can inform your Majestie, they are all by the Law in a premunire. God hath put these People into your Majesties hands to help to stop the great debts of the Nation. I humbly say, by the Lawes of God, and of this Nation, these Jewes are Blasphemers against Christ, and I humbly pray their Purse and Bodies may pay for it.

21. It is in your Sacred Majesties power to make these Jewes pay for their
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their presumption, in daring to settle themselves amongst us in these times: the Iewes over all the World will ransom these Iewes Bodies at a great rate, and they have mightie Estates at this day among us. By this due course of Iustice and Law, your Sacred Majestie will keep Iudaisme out of the Kingdom, for your Majesties doing thereof, your Sacred Majestie will obtain the prayers of all good Christians. I humbly pray read 1 Cor. 16. 22.

May it please your sacred Majestie, I most humbly observe by the Merchants of *Londons* Petition, there can nothing be granted to them, which will be more acceptable to the Merchants of the City of *London* in general, and all the English Trademen, then the banishing these Iewes, and removing them from all communion and fellowship out of this Nation root and branch. *Oliver Cromwells* design to bring in the Iewes amongst us, was to make them Farmers of the Customs, and Excise, and to have naturalized them, by that means to have drawn into this Nation the principal Iewes in the World, with their Estate and Credit, which if death had not suppressed the Tyrant, he would have made these Iewes very instrumental to carry on his designs by furnishing *Cromwel* with vast sums of treasure; *Anthony Fardinando* the great Iew, told me the Iewes were to advance one Million of Money, to have libertie to bring in two thousand Iewish Merchants, and their Families, to be naturalized, had that design gone on, which was prevented by the death of the Tyrant *Oliver*, All the English Merchants of this Nation would have been supplanted of their birth-right, and oppressed by the griping extortion of the Iewes. The Lawes of the Kingdom makes them all Felons, and your Sacred Majesties vassals both for life, member, and estates, and the Law being put in execution, after posteritie shall for ever be rid of them in this Kingdom, to the comfort of all good Christians, Merchants, and Tradesmen of *London*.

May it please your Sacred Majestie, Above a year since I presented to Mr. *Justice Tyril* this business of the Iews, who upon perusal of my Papers told me, That it was no convenient time to move in it: and Mr *Justice Tyril* desired me, that I would not impart it to any person, but reserve the same, till God should bless the Kingdom with your Majesties happy Arrival into *England*, and then it would be a fit time for to present it for your Majesties Service, and to present it to your Majesties Privie Counsel; and that he would take that order your Sacred Majestie

Majestie, and your most honourable Privy Council, upon your happy arrival at *London*, should be made acquainted therewith, and my readinesse to observe his commands in this busines, for your Sacred Majesties service.

Mr. *Justice Tyril* was pleased to tell me, it should be fully presented to your Sacred Majestie, for my advantage, thereupon Mr. *Justice Tyril* told me he would take some paines to study this busines, if I would leave the Papers with him, both for the former Presidents, and what the lawes of the Kingdom was touching the *Jewes*, according to his desire I left the Papers with him, and I did thereupon promise to him, not to acquaint any more persons with this busines, (upon the Reasons Mr. *Justice Tyril* gave me) till those times changed, and your Majestie should Arrive at *London*: In *June* last I waited on Mr. *Justice Tyril*, to know how I should proceed on this businesse of the *Jewes*; and he gave me order to wait on some of your Majesties most Honourable Privy Council, with my Humble Propotals touching the *Jewes*, which was almost *verbatim*, as this Petition is now to your Majestie and the Parliament, which I did, and I had Mr. *Justice Tyrils* Commission to acquaint some of the Honourable Lords of your Majesties most Honourable Privy Counsel, what had formerly passed between Mr. *Justice Tyril* and my self, about *Christmas* 1659. touching the *Jewes*, And that Mr. *Justice Tyril* had taken a great deal of paines in searching Records and Presidents in the *Jewes* Case, and would satisfie their Lordships what the Law was at this day touching the *Jewes* in *London*, which Mr. *Justice Tyril* hath done.

May it please your Sacred Majestie, I hearing but this morning from a Merchant of *London*, that this Businesse of the *Jewes* would come under Examination of this Parliament, as tomorrow morning, touching a Petition of the Merchants of *London*, against the Re admittance of the *Jewes*: I humbly thought it my Duty to present this Humble Petition to your Sacred Majestie, and the Lords and Commons in Parliament, to give your Majestie an humble Accompt how long I have acted in this businesse, and with what readines and willingness I did forbear to make any Progresse, upon Mr. *Justice Tyrils* desiring me.

And now again, I humbly revive this businesse, and lay it and my self prostrate at the feet of your Sacred Majestie and the Parliament, to do therein as your Majestie and the Parliament, in your Grave Wisdom, shall judge most meet.

18. Decemb. 1660.

And your Petitioner shall ever pray, &c

*To the Right Honourable the Lord high Chan-
cellour of ENGLAND.*

May it please your good Lordship,



Now again humbly present you with this Book, and also one other to your Lordships honourable Sonne, begging this noble favour from your Lordship, that by reason of your Lordships most weighty businesse, peradventure your Lordship will not find time to peruse it over; that therefore your Lordship would be pleased to appoint some one to present your Lordship a short draught of the businesse I humbly propose, with my reasons for what I say. I humbly say, concerning the regulating of the Mint, and the businesse of exportation of Gold and Silver, I have had good reason to be able to give an account of that to his Sacred Majesty, and his Privy Council, being employed by his Majesties Royal Father of blessed memory for above seven years in this businesse, of stopping the transporting of Gold and Silver, as appears by his Royal Letter unto me. And as I am his Majesties Humble and Loyal Subject, I make it a point of conscience to conceal my knowledg touching this businesse. What prejudice his Majesty, and his most honourable Lords of his Privy Council will suffer, and be exposed unto, should some Merchants of *London* obtaine leave but for a year, as now they desire, to transport Gold and Silver freely, without leave from his Majesty, and his Privy Council.

My good Lord, the Flowers of the Crown are Sacred things, and especially such, as if his Majesty, and his Privy Council deposite it to any other hands, then the Law hath placed it, and invested it. Gold and Silver in all Kingdoms is a royal Merchandize, by twenty Acts of Parliament, and in King *James's* time, and in King *Charles the First*, of glorious memory, by ten Proclamations settled and confirmed.

These Kings found out this remedy to hinder the transporting of Gold & Silver, without their licence, which was (in good sooth) to put the Laws strictly in execution against these bold Offenders. About the year 1619, many of the *Dutch* Merchants were fined at above a hundred thousand pounds, and King *James* caused almost all the money to be levied on Sir *William Cursen*, Mr. *Delabar*, Sir *Moses Trian*, Mr. *Debest*, and Sir *Peter*

Vanlore, &c. who was fined twice the first time for transporting of Gold, and the second time for speaking against the Lords of the Councel, for fining him so much for transporting of Gold in the *Star-Chamber*, and leavying the fine, being twenty thousand pounds. Sir *Peter Vanlore* was for speaking against the Sentence, fined many thousand pounds in the *Star-Chamber*, and was so humbled by the Lords, that he told them he would think of the Sentence, of fining him for words, though for the future he would not speak against their Sentence, this was about the year 1620. King *Charles* of glorious memory, commanded me to prosecute the Transporters of Gold and Silver 1635, in the *Star-Chamber*, which imployment I would have declined, foreseeing both the envy and charge it would expose me to, but upon the importunity of Master Secretary *Cook*, 1634. I undertook this service, and caused the Offenders to be fined at 23100. l.

These two Sentences in the *Star-Chamber* brought the Kings businesse to the right Chancel, for presently the transporting of Gold and Silver ceased, I being commanded and impowered by his late Majesty, to keep my Eye on the Transporters of Gold and Silver, the Transporters of Gold and Silver found the hazzard so great, that the Trade was laid aside, and the Mint in the Tower flourished again.

The Silver and Gold imported then into the Kingdom, run into the right Chancel, and was coined weekly, and daily in the Tower, to the view of Millions of Gold and Silver.

I humbly desire your Lordship to be truly informed thereof, by Sir *William Parkhurst*, and Sir *Ralph Freeman*, and Mr. *James Hoor* Controller of his Majesties Mint, they can certify to your Lordship, the yearly quantitie of Gold and Silver coined in the Mint from the year 1618, to the year 1644, about eighteen Millions of pounds Sterling.

All men know in a payment of one thousand pounds about 1630, above eight hundred pounds was payed in Gold, every man should receive, and Gold was so plentiful, that the Common People wanted change of Silver.

It is beleevd by many, knowing Merchants, and Mint-men, that have observed by what tricks, and waies the Merchants of *London* have since 1643, transported Gold and Silver; that there is not the twentieth part of the Gold left in the Kingdom, that was in stock *Ann.* 1643; nor the fourth part of the currant Silver Coin, that was in stock in the Kingdom 1643. My good Lord, this truth I beleve will be confirmed by the Officers of his Majesties Mint, who by reason of their long experience
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many of them have in the mystery of their imployment, will be the most authentick witnesse to satisfie your Lordship, and his Majesties Privy Councel in this point.

My good Lord, if this be the present posture of the Kingdom, concerning its monies of Gold and Silver, no marvel if there be a general complaint of scarfity of money, decay of Trade, and disturbance, and difficulties in receiving Rents, paying Debts and Taxes, when the materials of Gold and Silver, the Coin, and Treasure of the Nation, by the indirect practices of some covetous Merchants, for their private profit, and gaine, shall be Transported out of the Kingdom.

Is not Gold and Silver in all Ages, and in all Countries the finews, blood, and nerves of a Kingdom, is it not the measure, and rule of all things in Kingdoms, is it not a Kingly Merchandize, left to every man freely to import, but once landed, it is then to be invested in Coin, and only converted to that use, without an especial Licence from the King, and his Councel.

My Lord, in *Spain* it is death to export Gold or Silver without Licence from the King, but there are some commodities in *Spain*, as Corn, and if you import Corn, you have free liberty to transport Gold and Silver. The like dispensation the King of *France* in some cases gives the Merchants at *Marseilais*, but it is still with the Kings Licence. And as his Majesties Royal Father did by Commissioners at *Dover*, and there was a Register kept of the quantity, and quality of the Gold or Silver transported, to see the King hath a just account of the quantity. My Lord, I humbly say I never did speak, or write, or so much as think, but that his Majesty, or his Privy Councel, have the full, and free liberty to transport either their own money, or the Merchants Gold and Silver, to dispencc with all Lawes so much, as they, and only they shall see just cause, to give leave, and licence to the Merchants, or any other to transport; and the Kings Majesty, and his Privy Councel cannot, I humbly say, part with this great Trust, either to any Corporation, or Merchants, or other private persons whomsoever, without diminution and damage of his Majesties imperial Crown, and Dignity, to the damage, and prejudice of all the Lords, and landed Gentry of the Kingdom, and the consequence that may follow, will put the soul of the *Militia* into the Merchants hands, for, give them but a liberty to transport Gold and Silver at their pleasure, they will make it a free Merchandize for their private profit, send away all the coined Silver of the Kingdom, as they have already done the Gold of the Kingdom; the damage

the Nobility and Gentry have already received by transporting the Gold of the Kingdom, without the Kings licence, and against the Laws I have already presented to your Lordship in this Book, to which I humbly referr.

My Good Lord, within these two dayes I heard a noble Lord of his Majesties Privy Councel say to me, that the Merchants declared they would Transport Gold and Silver, if there was profit in it, in spite of all Lawes, and this there was some Merchants at the Councel of Trade, did openly affirme, that Transporting Gold and Silver, if it did produce profit, could not be stopped, and for that reason desired that it might be left freely to the Merchant, to be at his pleasure to dispose of it as he pleased, for one year to have liberty to export what Gold and Silver they pleased, without check or controll, and then his Majesty should see whether his Mint should not Coin money more then it now doth.

My good Lord, to this bold demand of the Merchant, I humbly make this reply, that I know it, the Trade of the Nation at this day brings in many score thousands of pounds of Gold and Silver, which some Merchants cannot avoid, but must bring in Bullion for the returne of our Merchandize, and so hath done all these troubles, but sent it beyond Seas again, before it was coined, for the Merchants private profit. If your Lordship command, and impower me to see the Lawes already made put in execution, I will force the Merchants *volens nolens* to bring in the Gold and Silver every day into the Mint, after it is imported to be coined, or at his perill let him transport it.

My good Lord, I have heard in one of the King of Spains Customehouses there, this saying writ in Spanish, which I have heard interpreted to be in English, *Once for me, ten times for thee*, meaning that if the Merchants stole ten times Custome, the King once taking them by his Officer, at the eleventh time would be even with them, for cozening the King in his Customs ten times.

So there dayly comes in Gold and Silver by the course of Trade, as I humbly say, but there is no skilfull man appointed to inforce the Merchant to Coin this Gold and Silver, there are Lawes enough that appoint the Merchant that he should Coin it, but the Merchant is for his profit, one Merchant imports Gold and Silver, and another Merchant exports Gold and Silver, and in this manner is a Trade driven for many hundred thousand pounds a year, and the King hath never a farthing paid him for Excise or Custome.

My Lord, it is execution that gives life to the Law, make a hundred Lawes,

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Laws, and appoint no body to see to the Execution, and you shall not have one of them obeyed. Therefore I humbly pray his Majesties Proclamation to renew the old Laws, and if I be commanded to see to the Execution, I shall give his Majestie a good accompt, as formerly I did to his Majesties Royal Father in this particular businesse.

My Lord, That Master that hath a Scholar that tells him he will come to School but when he list, and then after shall fall to capitulate, that his Master shall give him leave for a year to do what he list, telling him, this course shall make him a better Scholar, then to be tied to rules to come to School, surely all men will say this Master gives a fair opportunitie for the Scholar to rule the Master.

And what effects such condiscentions hath produced to his late Majesty of glorious memory, the Kingdoms of *England*, and *Scotland*, by lamentable and wofull experience can tell, to the utter ruine of many thousands of Families.

When Princes condescend to go on foot, Beggars, Upstarts, and Rebels will mount on Horse-back. Were the Acts of the Common-Council of *London* for twenty two years viewed, and examined, it will be found what these very men, that now hunt so greedily to get this imperial Flower out of the Crown, have formerly acted against his Majesties Royal Father, and no doubt some of them have designed to act that by fraud, they see they cannot act by force. I speak not this, that any one that hath his Majesties Royal pardon should be punished for what they have done, spoken, or acted, (God defend) but this I lay, every one that hath received his Majesties gracious pardon for what is past, hath not repented him of what he hath done, this is apparent by some mens words and actions; had they power and opportunitie, it is my fears, my good Lord, and I have good reason to fear it, that if some rich Merchants of *London*, who are factious, and Fanaticke, could get the power to make Silver and Gold a free Merchandize, they would out of envy, and to make a disturbance, and obstruction in the Church and State, draw, and contract all the Treasure of Gold and Silver of the Kingdom into their own hands, and leave only a Paper credit in the Nation, and so being Masters of the Peoples money, on pretence of free Trade, and Merchandizing Gold and Silver by fraud, get the Soul of the *Militia* into their hands, Gold and Silver being the quintessence of the *Militia*; All men knowes *London* commands all the Treasure of the Kingdom, the Merchants commands the Treasure of *London*, what swarms of Sectarian Merchants, and Tradsmen are in *London*, all wise men

men know, that for sixteen years together they had the rule in the Common Council, and Court of Aldermen, the Law hath cut off but one of them, neither the Sword of God, or the King hath fallen on them; they are like Frogs in a Ditch, were there but an opportunity, you should hear them crook as Frogs in *March*, there are more turn Coats in *London* then Taylors, I pray God the Kings Majesty, and his Majesties Privy Council be wary of them.

My good Lord, his Majesty having disbanded his Army, if any of the Souldiers of what ranck soever, should openly declare they would not live by their honest Calling, or submit to the Kings Lawes, but would be high way men, and break the Kings peace, would not the next Justice of Peace secure these men, and hamper them by the Law, keeping them in Prison till they found security for their good behaviour. Surely my good Lord, I humbly say, I take it by the Law, it is the duty of every good Justice of Peace to do it, but God be thanked, there is no such need, the Souldier is quiet, and the Merchant begins to rant. The *London* Merchants many of them are cured of their Leprosie by the Kings mercy, not one in ten returning with the gratefull Leper to give real thanks.

That after Ages shall say, that any Merchant of *London* shall dare openly to profess before a Privy Councillor, he will live an outlawrie, let the King and Parliament make what lawes, and set what penalties they please against transporting of Gold and Silver, if they find it to be for their profit they wil transport it. That a Merchant to declare it openly and premediatly, that they will transport Gold and Silver, what they list, and whither they list, though they be restrained, by this doctrine, they may say they will transport Fullers earth, Tymber, Corne, and all other prohibited Commodities in despite of the law, and then come to capitulate, that if the Kings Majestie will dispence with this Law, and leave to them to do what they please for one year for a tryal, his Sacred Majesty shall see how his Mint shall flourish; let them do what they list, they will make the Kings Majesties Mint go, and stand still as they please, they will be the Sovereign Judges in this most importunate business, to have it at their pleasure, and at their dispose: God defend that this Fanatick opinion should not be stifled in the birth, and the Kings Sacred Majestie, and his privy Council, to set a mark upon such men as have the boldness to affirme, or demand such a power out of the Kings Majesties hands. The Mint was alwaies in all former Ages by the law, to have the preemption upon the pain of forfeiture, as appears 5. and 6.

of Edw. 6. Let the East-India Company obey this law, and let them send what Gold or Silver they please, if the East-India Company break this Law at their pleasure, then your Majesties Mint will never go, let the Merchants wait on the Kings Mint, and not the Mint to wait on the Merchants pleasure. We want Gold and Silver, not Spice.

Had his Majesties Royal Father followed King *James*'s Rule in his **BASILICON DORON**, concerning the Puritans in the three Kingdoms, it would have given a stop to the growth of the Pigs of *S. Antholines* of *London*, that they should never have proved wild beasts of the Forrest to have rooted up the Church, King, Nobles, and Gentry, to the destruction of many a score thousands of Families, whereof I am one, to my damage at this day above twenty thousand pounds by the late barbarous and bloody rebellion of *London*.

What damage came on the Kingdom by his Majesties Royal Fathers condescending to part with the Flowers of the Crown.

Semiramis requested a Boon of her Husband *Ninus*, that she might govern the Kingdom for three days at her own will and pleasure, without contradiction; which being granted, the first work she did was to cut off her husbands head; which being done she kept the government of the Kingdom in her own hands as long as she lived.

May it please your Lordship, there is this further reply I say to these men, we see every moneth that several incorrigible Rogues hanged for murder, for robbery, for housebreaking, though the laws be death, yet some graceless spirits will fly out and commit these hainous offences; but if there was no law, would there not be twenty times more robbers, and thieves then now, that they are every day taken up and hanged. Surely every man will say this is true; the law is a Bridle that restrains many, so I say, make the strictest lawes that can be, death for any man to transport Gold, some will offend. The lawes of the Kingdom for several years, made transporting Gold and Silver felony, when the Gold and Silver was transported as it is now at this time, till the Kingdom was recruited again with Gold and Silver, and then this severe penaltie was taken off, only to the forfeiture of the Gold and Silver transported, and imprisonment at the Kings pleasure, and so the law is at this day.

And God defend it should ever be dispensed with, but at the will and pleasure of the King, and his Council, and not at the will of the Merchant.

May it please your Lordship, some Merchants say there are three
Trade.

Trades that cannot be driven but with money, Gold or Silver, viz. The East-India Trade, the East-land Trade, the Turkey Trade. I shall humbly acquaint your Lordship, and my Lord Treasurer, with a reply to that demand; I humbly say his Majestie, and his Privy Council, by the law are Judges what proportion of Silver and Gold shall go, and the Merchant to be free to send his own Commodities, to his best advantage, and what I can justly charge these Companies with, and how these abuses may be regulated for the future in part follows.

I do humbly desire that hereafter a true accompt be yearly delivered in of all the particulars, of all goods of a forreign groweth imported, and all goods of the English groweth exported, to have the Ballance made every year, to present to his Majestie, and his Privy Council, as the Lord Treasurer *Burleigh* did every year to Queen *Elizabeths* Majestie by this way.

The Queen saw how her Subjects every year increased or decreased in the Stock of money of the Nation; the Lord *Burleighs* rule was true, that if we export more of our native goods then we import forreign, the Stock of Silver and Gold increaseth, and so it holds on the contrary, more forreign goods imported then English goods exported, the stock of Silver and Gold decreaseth,

1. No Nation will give us their Commodities for nothing, as for example, the Trade for *Norway* is driven all with Silver, and Bills of exchange, which is money, you have a thousand Ships loaden with Tymber, Comes for *London*, every year for these last twenty years, and not the fourtieth part of English goods transported to *Norway*, but all returned in money, this Tymber hath done a mischief to the whole Nation, hath made *London*, the Belly, too big for the rest of the Body of the Kingdom, I humbly desire in time this may be considered of,

2. The Nation hath been cozined in the price of Wines these fifteen years, for want of putting the law in execution, one hundred and fifty thousand pounds a year, to the Spaniards, and French mens gain; and this mischief hath been continued for the private profit of a few Merchants, and Vintners, who by bribes to some in power, to some particular Members of Parliament, or Council, have neglected to set the price of Wines at the Chancery Bar according to the law; the Lord Chancellor, the Lord Treasurer, the Lord Privy Seal, by Act of Parliament are impowered to do it; this would save the stock of the Kingdom one hundred and fifty thousand pounds a year. I pray God, three or foure thousand pounds this year to some private hands, do not suffer the

the Kingdom in general to be cozened a hundred and fifty thousand pounds this year and better; this abuse if it be not prevented, all men may see bribing will never be out of fashion, the law for a remedie is easy and plain, let it be put in execution in Gods Name I humbly pray.

May it please your good Lordship, I am very credibly informed by those that are well acquainted with the Dutch, East-India Trade, that the Dutch drive a profitable and gainfull Trade to the East-Indies, and for the great benefit of their Common-wealth, and City of *Amsterdam*.

And our Trade to the East-Indies, is as it hath been practised ever since we traded thither, hath been hurtfull and wastfull to the stock of the Kingdom, to the Adventurers unprofitable, none getting but the Companies Servants and Factors, who from poor fellows, come home mightie rich, and then many of them are Aldermen, or Aldermens fellows, and so come to be Governours of the Companie, and so order the stock of the Companie, that the generalitie of the Adventurers have alwaies a Flemish reckoning, for an English accompt, being gulled by a few of the Merchants, that have been Factors.

My Lord, the Trade to the East-Indies from *Holland* is driven with great subtiltie, and a mightie stock, not in Gold or Silver as we yearly send, for now they send no Gold or Silver from *Holland* to speak of to the East-Indies, but Manufactures of Christendom, the Dutch being in the East-Indies as Potent, and numerous as they are in Christendom, their own Natives spend most of these Manufactures; then they have a vast stock of wealth goes constantly in Trade, they have mighty stocks there, and in Christendom, they buy cheap and sell dear, their commodities watching the advantage of their markets in all their Dominions and Territories, where they have strong Cities, Garrisons, and Ports to command the Natives: and by their power they compel and force the Natives to a Trade for commodities of Christendom, at their own price, and this is done in regard in many places of the East-Indies, the Dutch are Masters of the Country, and command, and force a Trade upon their own terms, by bartering of the commodities of Christendom, for their Spices, Drugs, Silks, and Callicoes, whereas we cannot do so; we want stock there, and a force to compel a Trade.

The English Trade in the East-Indies hath hitherto been almost all driven with Gold and Silver, and the English Gold and Silver hath bin melted down, and sould by Goldsmiths to the East-India Company, and Goldsmiths have gotten Merchants to sell English Gold and Silver in Ingots, to send to the East-Indies, we English have no Cities plan-

The Dutch Nation having land so dear amongst them, viz. fifty years purchase, and money at interest at three in the hundred, there wealth is in money and merchandize, they want that compass of land which we have in England, and that made the Dutch before these troubles in 1640. during King James's and K. Charles the 1. reign, to have constant here above three millions of money at interest, which to my knowledge was all called in by the Dutch out of England; and that is one principall cause of the great scarcity of the stock of gold and silver, we want a stock of gold and silver to drive the trade in England between party and party; the people of this Kingdom may be without clovs, nutmegs, cinnamon, currants, Flanders laces, French bables and trifles, in these unnecessary commodities and trifles the stock of the Kingdom is wasted many hundred thousand pound: a year; make a law to banish the use of these things, or impose upon the Merchant that he shall bring in the quantity of gold and silver, and coin it in the Tower, to the value of these unnecessary commodities imported; a liquorish tooth makes an empty purse. And in all well regulated Kingdoms, the King gives a stop to these mischiefs.

ted with many thousands of English Families in the East-Indies, to take of our Merchandize as the Dutch have, we pray and intreat a Trade with Gold and Silver, and our Hats in our hands, and shuffel from Port to Port at the courtesy of the Natives in the East-Indies; whereas the Dutch he inforces a Trade, and his own people in the Indies spend the Manufactures of Christendom they yearly send thither: I have this from a most knowing Merchant. Also I am credibly informed by some Merchants, whom I believe know this to be a truth, as having themselves been eye witnesses of this in the East-Indies to be true, that say, if we would drive a profitable Trade to the East-Indies, then let us fortify, get many strong Forts and Towns as the Dutch, and a proportion of English Natives to spend our Manufactures there, as the Dutch have.

My good Lord, and if his Majestie will licence the East-India Company to buy Gold and Silver for their East-Indies Trade; I humbly pray for the time to come these two provisos be put on them, that the East-India Company be bound not to out-give the price of the Mint, but to let the Kings Mint alwaies have the first preemption, the generality of the Nations occasions first to be served, to keep money to go to market, to maintain Trade, to pay Rent, to pay his Majesties Subsidies, and Taxes, the Kingdoms necessities must I humbly say be served before their superfluities, the Cloathier must find a quick market, and money, the Graizer for his Mutton and Beef, the Land-lord have his Rents, necessities for belly and back must be provided for by every provident Kingdom: when this is done, then if there be an over plus, Cloves, Mace, Cynamon are for luxury, and wast both body and purse, and if that trade must bring in such superfluities, the Manufactures of the Kingdom are too good for these Merchandizes, and it is want of stock, and forecast of Trade, that causes all this Gold and Silver to be sent out of England, as hath been; let the East-India Company send out our Manufactures for Spaine, Ginny, Barbary, Angelo, and invest our native Commodities in Gold and Silver, and from thence ship away the gold and silver, but above all let East-India Company be forced to register all gold and silver, and the parts whither sent; the like to be done for all other persons that send gold and silver beyond Seas, and where as the Merchants desire to have libertie one year upon tryal, if his Majestie grant them any such licence, (which God defend) then I humbly desire for that year to be register for the King, to see all gold and silver exported, packed up, told, and registred, and to give his Majesty the accompt, which service for one year I will execute freely, without any sallary from his Majesty, or the Mer.

And in all well regulated Kingdoms, the King gives a stop to these mischiefs.

chant for it, and then his Majesty will see the truth, what is transported.

4. My good Lord, I humbly say there was an Act of Parliament about the year 1640. to prohibit the importation of Currants into the Kingdom, but that good Act was revoked, for the private profit of some Merchants, to the general damage of the Kingdom, and ever since by the Merchants tricks, Currants have been sold for as much more as they was formerly, before the year 1640. to the great weakening the Stock, and Treasure of the Kingdom; the covetous Merchant being greedy after profit, buyes all these Currants, being many score thousands of pounds yearly with ready monie at very high prises, at *Zant*, in the Territories of the *Venitians* for to ingrosse the Trade; and thus we send out our staple comodities, which we sel in Turkey for ready mony, and afterwards invest this mony into Currants, these Currants are in no part of the world used for food, but here in *England*, the Natives never eat Currants, there is forty times more Currants spent in *England*, then there is in all the world besides, the Natives thought we died Cloath with them; as Cap. *Robertis* saith, we part with staple Commodities, and return unnecessary Trifls, for the Peoples luxury and intemperance, there being many score of thousands pounds a year spent in Puddings, Cakes, and Pies, and this vanity for the profit of the Merchant, and sold at high prises, to the damage of the Kingdom.

5. My Lord, were the money which buyes these currants sent for *England*, the Turkey trade would bring in great store of Silver to the strengthening of the Nation, whereas now the Merchant and the Grocer have the profit, the Common-wealth the vain expence and luxury, whereas the Puddings, Cakes, and Pies that are generally spent in *England* might serve without Currants; this very abuse prevented would save the Kingdom one hundred and fifty thousand pounds a year and bring in so much Silver into the Mint. I instance but in a few particulars, whereas there may be scores of several ways and things comprehended to be under consideration of regulating of Trade, for the saving the stock of Gold and Silver of the Nation, *Viz.* 1. Timber from *Norway* which hath built *London* to that monstrous Bulk, that *London* to the Kingdom looks like a man in a deep Dropsie, all Belly and no Legs, or other limbs but weak and withered; King *James* in his time found it, and I pray God his Majestie and his Privy Councel would in time give a stop to the further bulk and number of Houses of *London*, and the Suburbs: some Merchants though they know it, will not tell your Lordship which way the Gold and Silver goes out of the Nation, for their particular profit, but to the destruction of the Kingdome

the damage of his Majestie, and all his Lords and Gentry, and all landed men who have let Lands or Houses by Lease; Many Merchants are like Chirurgions sworn to make a cure, every scratch must have its plaister, the mystery of the several Corporations must not be medled with, nor touched, they are sworn to particular societies, so they prosper it is no matter for the publike; this is the opinion and constant rule of some Merchants, they are sworn to conceal their several Mysteries of their Societies and Companies, though they know many of them is to the prejudice of the publike.

Restrain building about *London*, you will secure the Kingdome from some mischiefs that in time may grow up out of such a grosse body, if it be not timely prevented: It will be proved out of the Custom Books there hath been in *Timber* spent in *London* within thirty yeers imported from *Norway*, above foure Millions of Silver, which hath all been exported in half-crowns, and Dolders, and peeces of eight, to the great decay and destruction of the stock of money in the Nation, and to the great oppression and damage of many of the Kings good Subjects, who have been oppressed by the practises of many persons in the Citie of *London*, who have ever had their purses open to buy up the Kings, Queens, Churches, and Noblemens lands to build many thousands of houses, in thirty years getting the wealth and rents of the Kingdom into their hands, which hath given them opportunity to be the oyl that fed all the late horrible Rebellions; if *London* pipes, the Kingdom dances watch the Piper.

It will be most safe for his Majesty, and his Lords and Gentry to take speedy course to stop the increase of building in the Suburbs, and parts adjacent, and that way will stop two hundred thousand pounds a year which is transported in money to Norway, this Silver will be then coyned here in the Tower.

2. The next way to set the Mint on work is, To prohibit the Importation of Currants, or at least the *Turkey Company*, or every Merchant that imports Currants, to be bound to bring in to be coyned so much Silver, as the value of the Currants is imported, for it will be proved above a hundred and fifty thousand pounds a year in Silver is paid for these Currants, which would all be coyned here, were these Currants prohibited, which are now sold at double the price they were at twenty years last past.

3. My good Lord I humbly pray, That you settle the Rate of Wines, the French Wine of the best, eight pence the quart, the Spanish Wine one shilling four pence, of the best Canary, twelve pence Sherry, or some other moderate price, and command the Laws to be put in execution,
you

you will save the Nation one hundred and fiftie thousand pounds a year, which the *French* and the *Spaniards* make us pay, for this is to be observed all forreign commodities are sold here higher then formerly, and our native Manufactures despised and undervalued abroad, we lessen in the price of our native commodities, and overvalue forreign commodities, we send our staple commodities, return French trifles.

4. Banish *Flanders* laces, many score thousand pounds a year being yearly imported into this Nation without paying Excise or Customs, these laces being made in Monasteries, and so by consequence can be afforded cheaper then other people can make them, that have no support but their own hands, it is a shame it is not prevented by a strict law.

5. There is in black and colored Silk and Thread *Flanders* laces imported above two hundred thousand pounds a year, and so hath been for these thirty years. 6. There is a great wast in the making Gold and Silver lace here, and a chear put on the Kingdom fifty thousand pounds a year, as I can demonstrate to the Councel of Trade, I pray it may be prevented.

By these waies, and several others of luxury, vanitie, and prodigallitie, all the Gold and Silver is gone out of the Nation, within these twentie years, above twentie millions of monie, and there must be waies thought on to recrute, and fill the Nation with Gold and Silver at this conjuncture of time, for the Merchant to go about to have Gold and Silver a free Merchandize, it is both unseasonable, and unreasonable, let them study waies to bring in Silver and Gold, and not transport it.

Now your Lordship, and the Councel for Trade see some of the waies the Kingdom hath lost their Gold and Silver, I humbly pray laws may be made for the future to prevent them, by his Sacred Majestie, and his Privy Councel, and for speaking these truths, I humbly desire his Sacred Majestie, and his Lords of the Councel protection and continuance, to keep me from all unreasonable men, for my Conscience tells me, no Merchant or Tradesman that loves the King, and his Privie Councel, honour, and the wellfare, and enriching of all the Kingdom in general, without respect of persons, can be justly offended at what I here say touching this businesse; there are several other passages which I hold not so proper to expose to publique view, but shall humbly commit them to writing, which shall be by me your Lordships humble Servant laid down at your Lordships feet for his Sacred Majesties service, and the true advance of the Trade of this Nation. My Lord, I read King *Solomon* was a great Merchant, and Traded to the *Indies*: and I hope to see that glorious day, that our Gracious Sovereign King *Charles the First*

shal have for his own proper accompt his Royal Fleets at Sea, in Christendom, in the *Indies* East and West, and have his standing Councils for the management of this proper stock in Trade, as the Kings of *Spain* and *Portugal* have now at this day. By which Trade, instead of borrowing monie of his Merchants, and his Citie of *London*, his Imperial Majesty will have a great stock to lend them mony upon the Citie of *Londons* Charter, and the Seals of Corporations, that his Majesty will do as King *Henry* the seventh did, have three or four millions of Golden Pictures in his Exchequer, instead of pictures hanging against Walls, that so our Gold may be in that abundance amongst us, as it was thirty years ago, and the Silver as it was in King *Solomons* time, as plentiful as the Stones in the Street, that all our Harbours may be made Scales of Trade for all parts of the World, and *London* the Empress of the World for Trade, that her good Merchants may daily increase, and the factious Fanatick griping Ulurous Merchant wither and fade away, and not one of the breed left within *London* Walls. May it please your Lordship, by the law of the Kingdom, two lawful honest witnesses determine all mens controversies, I have to shew my Zeale and Fidelity to his Majesties service, printed these following Certificates.

May it please your Lordship, if his Majesty please to ask his old Trusty servants Mr. Thomas Davis and Mr. Humphrey Painter his Majesties Royal Fatbers Barber and Surgeon, Mr David Ramadg of the Tower his Majesties servant, and they will satisfy his Majesty that wee four made a solemn promise of secrecy one to another, for the concealing of what I then imparted to them in November 1652. and severall times since, I knowing them all to be most active and faithfull for his Majesties service, thas I told them I would stay the Dutch silver in the ships Sampson Salvador, and Saint George, and I did at the same time shew them all a parchment-Roll which was several reasons to engage the Parliament and the Dutch in a war, that I would stay the silver in these ships at my own great expense, which I did upon the grounds that it would destroy the pretended Parliament and Coundil of State, and that I told both Mr Thomas Davis

vis, Mr Humphrey Painter, Mr David Ramadg, that I would sell my self to my shirt, but I would stay the said silver in the ships Sampson, Salvador, and Saint George, and that I did it only to divide and destroy the pretended Parliament and Council of State in their Councils, and expose them to a war both with Holland, Spain, Hamborough. This I did say in Novemb. 1652, which war would expose the red Coats of the Parliament to feed hadocks, they being wasted in the Dutch war of course, the Royal party would have a day for their own again, and be able to take it from the Parliament, Cromwell, or any other fanatick Rebel, who God for the sins of the Nation had given the King and his party over to for a time. I am faithfully promised by these Gentlemen they will be ready allwaies to vouch the truth of this to his Majestie or his Privy Counsel, that this was acted, & we all vowed secrecy because of the danger, being as much as all our lives were worth, And Lieutenant Colonel Paul Smith will justifie to his Majesty and his Privy Council, I took him down with me in my boat to Exif the 13 of December 1652. he being my near Kinsman, I imparted this businesse of the ships Sampson, Salvador, and Saint George, to him upon a vow of secrecy, with my design to divide and destroy both the then pretended Parliament and Council of State, at Exif we saw a good part of the silver aboard these ships, I having a warrant from the Commissioners for prize goods, Mr Hill & Mr Willon to go a shipboard any these ships, and to take order and advice to prevent the silver from being taken ashore to the deceit of the pretended Parliament. Col. Smith can acquaint his Majestie how often I have saved his life within this twelve years, when several warrants for high treason as a spy from Bradshaw and afterwards from Cromwell, was for the apprehending him, and hid and concealed him, and got him passd by a wrong name several times, both at Gravesend and Dover, besides I furnished Col. Smith
with

with several sums of money to make his escape, which since he hath justly paid me.

Mr Andrew Heatly the Kings Majesties own sworn servant can certifie how I released the Scotch that were taken in worcester fight, got several of them begged by merchants to send to the Barbadoes, and after vwards gathered a purse, and sent many of them home to their owne Countrey, I got several of them being sick to be delivered to me, and paid for their physick and diet, and sent them to Scotland. I find it much spoken that Sir George Little fought once at Newbury in his shirt for his Majesties Royal Father, I can (if these following Certificates will not serve) prove, that I have above fourty times ventured my life and every Etion carried death vvith it, casting my self into all forms, all shapes, I have with St. Paul fought with beasts instead of men for his Majesties service, I have waited with patience, with secrecy and vigilancy, God and the Kings time and leisure. I could have ran with the first croud unto his Majestie, and presented this businesse to him and the nature of my sufferings both for his service and his fathers, but I chose rather to vvait vvith patience Gods time, and the Kings, for this is my certain rule in all my actions, I will use my just endea-vours and vigilance to state my oppressions and sufferings for his Royal Majesties Father and himself, and leave the issue to Gods good pleasure and vvill, And though I am not known to his now Royall Majestie, as I vvvas to his Father in many particular passages, yet I ever made my obligation that he vvvas my King, and Son of my most Gracious Master and King, for whom I would alwaies willingly have ventured my life upon his Royall Command.

I have many times ventured in more danger of my life, then if I had scaled a wall, or ran in the mouth of a Caannon, God of his mercy hath preserved me, in whom I ever relied and trusted, and I now am an humble

ble suitor to your Lordship to present me and my suffering condition to his sacred Majesty, in many waies I can be serviceable to his Majestie in businesse of the Kingdom, the particulars I shall humbly shew your Lordship in what way, and when you command, I shall with the same readinesse give up my self wholly at his Majesties commands to serve him and my Countrey, as for many years I did to his Royall Father of blessed memory. My Lord God hath appointed your Lordship, (I have formerly told you) to be my good Angel, to put me into the pool of Bethesda: My eie is fixed on you (as the handmaid is to her mistris) for good. St. James saith, Ask and you shall have. O would to God your Lordship would say, Violet I will present thy faithfull suffering to his Sacred Maieslie, and thy sad suffering condition to be relieved according to equity and Iustice, which noble favour would for ever oblige the humblest of your Lordships servants.

I do most humbly refer my self to the Report of the Right Honourable the Earle of Bristow, who was Secretary to his Majesties Royal Father, and privy to my great sufferings and bagards. I exposed my self to, for bringing up his Majesties Royal Fathers Letter of Peace to the City of London, in Decemb. 1643. how barbarously I have been used by the City of London, and the then Parliament, for doing his Majesties Royal Father of blessed memory that service; I have and shall hereafter leave it at large to posterity, reward and punishment is that that establissheth a King, and neither must be neglected if justice hold the Scales.

If I would
have been a
Traytor, I
could have
been an Alder-
man wore a
gold chain,
and peradven-
ture a Knight-
hood, and
gotten fifty
thousand
pounds in my
purse, with
half the trou-
ble and haz-
ard I suffered
for the late
King of blef-
sed memory,
I did his now
Majesties ser-
vice, and he
never knew
of it, I waite
on Gods time
and the Kings
for, viz, (satis-
faction; I am
not yet made
a squeezed O-
range. I know
wayes to raise
the Kings Ma-
jesty justly
and lawfully
twenty times
more then will
pay me my
losses; and I
hope new is
Gods time,
and the Kings,
to remember
me. So just a
King as his
Majesty is, I
am assured in
my soul and
conscience, he
will take or-
der I have sul-
and ample sa-
tisfaction for
my manifold
hazzards, and
great losses.

I voluntarily chose to suffer persecution, losse of my estate, liberty, and all outward comfort, to take up my crosse and follow the late blessed King of glorious memory, and be a poor loyal Subject, rather then to be a rich Rebel; I value my Allegiance above wealth, The late King of glorious memory sent for Alderman Gibbs, Alderman Wollaston and myself (all at one day) down to York, but they stayed and got wealth, and turned Traitors: I obeyed and suffered persecution, and losse of all my estate, being imprisoned a Ship-board, in Peter-house, the Kings-bench, and the Tower, above seven years.

Mr. Tho. Bushel can certifie his Majesty, that though he had the name of raising the Derbshire miners; Lingaged Mr. Fulwood of the Peak, at my request and charge, to be chiefly instrumental to get the miners to meet his Majestie at Derby, and was acting with Mr Bushel at Tisdeltmore in Derbshire, for the getting the miners together, and there was at one time eleven hundred souldiers listed at Derby, for which service I received his Majesties commands, both at York, Nottingham and Derby, about the same time his Majesty set up his Standard.

And I humbly desire Mr. Justice Tyril, to certifie his Majestie how I carried my self for His service

about

Now he sees it so clearly proved, both to his Majesty, and all the World, I lye prostrate at his Majesties feet, and desire justice, and your Lordships most honorable and gracious good word in my behalf.

about this time twelvemonth; I have that Judges promise. But many men when they have made use of a man for their own ends, forget their promises; I never yet feared to speak the truth when I found a convenient time: my good Lord, I can prove it, I was offered by some of the Claimers of the silver in the Dutch ships, to have let the silver in the ships Sampson, Salvador, and St. George in 1643. passe, to have payed me the sum of ten thousand pounds, I refused it, knowing I should never have the like opportunity to divide, and destroy the Parliament, the Council of State, Cromwel and Bradshaw. This I have Certified under the hands of eight severall credible Persons, that I refused the sum of ten thousand pounds, and stayed the silver, but they knew not my reasons why I stayed the silver, and refused the mony, for if they had known my reason, I had lost my life, they being all Cromwel's creatures, this Certificate is signed the First of May 1658. Signed by John Barkstead, Gabriel Beck, John Limbery, Edward Dendy, Henry Middleton, Isaac Dorislaus, Maurice Thompson, the original under all their hands I have ready to produce to your Lordship, but had these Gentlemen known my design, being

Cromwel's creatures, that it was to destroy the Parliament, *Cromwel* and *Bradshaw*, they had given me my dispatch in *Cromwel's* slaughter-house. God gave me courage happily to go thorow this great businesse, which destroyed those two Monsters the Parliament and *Cromwel*, I did that by fraud and feigned pretences, which forty thousand men could not have done by force. Sir *Henry Vane* Junior had the best Nose of all the pretended Council, for he smelt me out, and would have had me committed to the Tower for staying this silver, but God delivered me from him. Now I declare it unto all the world, and have their Certificates to shew, I refused this mony, and I valed the Kings service before my private Estate, and rather chose to live on bread and water, and to borrow fifteen hundred pounds to enable me to stay this silver, then to have lost the opportunity of dividing the Parliament, and I set on *Cromwel*, to unlade this silver, and to dissolve the Parliament, and this, Mr. *Sadler* the late Town Clerk of *London*, and Col *Bingham*, if they please to do me right, can certifie, that before them I perswaded *Cromwell* about the 16. of April 1652. to seize on the silver, dissolve the Parliament

(21)
liament, and to land it at the Tower, or under the
Banqueting house at *White-hall*; these two Gen-
tlemen brought me to *Cromwell* at the Cock-pit,
and was by me when I gave *Cromwell* this ad-
vice, *Cromwell* sent them both to me, to come
and speak with him about this businesse. The
value of this silver was two hundred seventy
eight thousand, and two hundred and fifty
pounds, this was the Bait I laid that made *Cromwel*
destroy the Parliament the 20. of *April 1653*. A
blessed day for our Royal King, and all his Party,
when the corporation of Rebels, the Rump Par-
liament had their fatall blow, a day never to be
forgotten by all true English-men, for in that ac-
tion *Cromwell* destroyed them, and himself, as
the sequel did prove.

Doctor *Walker* the Parliaments and *Cromwell's*
Advocate, Mr. *Dorilaus* their Solicitor, and Mr.
Wilson and Mr. *Hill* their Commissioners for
prize goods, would often ask me my reason why
I spent my estate and time in staying this silver,
in the afore said ships, they all telling me, I lost
both my money, and got a great deal of envy, and
they did believe that the Parliament, nor *Cromwel*
would never give me a farthing; I knew this to

be true, but I durst not trust any of them to tell them, that if the Parliament and *Cromwel* did not pay me, I had payed them, for this is most apparent, God blinded their Eyes, or else they would never have been so short sighted, as to trust, or imploy a man that they had cozened, and ruined him in his estate, and robed of all they could finde, to my damage twenty thousand pounds, for bringing them but a Letter of Peace from his late Majesty of blessed memory. I tel these Gentlemen now, & all the VVorld, I stayed this silver to divide and destroy the Rump Parliament, the pretended Council of State, and *Cromwel*, *Bradshaw*, and all their fellow Traytors. And this I tould to above ten of my Friends before ever I stayed the silver 1652. by my protestation in the Admiralty, though I would not trust any of the aforesaid Persons, because I knew them to be *Cromwels* Creatures: Now I tell them I did that with a Goose Quill, that ten thousand Muskets could not have done by force; it was a desperate undertaking, and had not God enabled me by his especial assistance, I had sunk in the undertaking this businesse.

Mr.

(23)

Mr. Du-Gard's Certificate.

I Do hereby Certifie whom it may concern, That I have been long Acquainted with Mr. Thomas Violet, who hath often communicated to me divers Secrets and Designs for the Service of his Majestie; what he had suffered for his Majestie of Glorious Memorie, for bringing up a Letter from his Majestie from Oxford to the City of London, and how he was betrayed by Alderman Woollaston and Gibs, and imprisoned in the Tower many years: That he put the Council of State upon the businesse to stay the Silver ships, Sampson, Salvadore, and George, against the Claims of Don Alonso de Cardenas, the Spanish Ambassador, knowing that the stopping of that money, would set the English and Dutch together by the eares, which accordingly fell out, and that upon his own Charge he prosecuted that businesse, never receiving one penny from the State, but was compelled to borrow money of divers friends, for the Accomplishing that Design: Oliver seized on the money which was coined in the Tower: and he presently after turned out the Parliament, and Council of State, and tyrannically assumed the Power upon himself: and so the question concerning the Government, was no longer between his Majestie and the Parliament, but between his Majestie and the single Familie of the Cromwells, which in time would be overcome by the Royal Partie And this I can truly testifie, that into what shape soever Mr. Violet turned himself, he was still cordially affected to his Majestie, and his design lay constantly for the ruine of the contrary Partie. This for the substance I can bear witnesse unto, though every particular circumstance I cannot remember; And that from the very beginning of the last Dutch War he made me privie to his Design, and I constantly assisted him with my best Advice, and great summes of money, for the carrying on of this service: And we solemnly engaged each to other secrecie in the matter, in regard of the danger, which concerned both our lives.

*lives, bad Cromwell or Bradshaw smelt it out : And for Mr. Violets indefatigable industry, faithfulness, activity, great expence, and daily hazard of his life, I am privy to, and upon my own certain knowledge can testifie, that in many particular transactions, he was very much instrumental for his Majesties service : and I do believe that his damage in the Sequestration of his estate, &c. amounts at least to * 20000 l. In witnesse whereof I have hereto subscribed my Hand.*

* Twenty thousand pounds.

Friday, Decemb.
21. 1660.

WILLIAM DU-GARD.

Lieut, Col. Paul Smith, his Certificate.

I Lieut. Col. Paul Smith do certify whom it may concern, that Mr. *Tho. Violet*, being my near Kinman, came to me about the 13. of Decemb. 1652. and acquainted me under a Vow and Promise of Secrecie, that he had delivered in a Paper and Propositions to *Bradshaw* and *Cromwell*, for the staying the Silver in the Ships *Sampson*, *Salvadore*, and *St. George*, then being brought into the River of *Thames*, and riding at *Erif*.

Mr. Tho. Violet told me, by order of the pretended Council of State, he was commanded to prosecute the said businesse in the Admiraltie, and to go on board all, or any of the said Ships, and to take order to secure the said Silver, that it be not stollen out of the said Ships, but kept safe for the use of the pretended Parliament.

Thereupon *Mr. Violet* desired me to go along with him aboard the Ships, which I accordingly did, by the way he telling me about the 13. of Decemb. 1652. the day or two before *Mr. Violet* made his Protest against the discharge of the Silver, saith *Mr. Violet* to me, I will, by the assistance of God stay this Silver; I have already divided the Council of State, and broke them into Faction, *Sir Henry Vane*, *Strickland*, *Chaloner*, *Nevil*, *Carew* and *Martin*, are for the discharge of this Silver, and for committing me to the Tower for staying this Silver; *Cromwell*, *Bradshaw*, *Whitlock*, *Sidenham*, and their partie are for giving me thanks. And that I shall by their order go to the Judges in the Admiraltie,

miralie, and make my Protest against the discharge of this Silver : to be plain with you Cozen, saith Mr. *Violet*, I have set them so together by the eares, that *Bradshaw* and Sir *Henry Vane* will never be reconciled.

Cromwel hath bid me act any thing, and affront the Iudges, or do any thing so I take order to stay the Silver, I see *Cromwel* is set to hold this Silver were it *Christs* and his twelve Apostles silver, and I am resolved seeing they will take advice of me, to give them that advice that shall set them together by the eares amongst themselves, and so divide and weaken them into faction, that I will set them upon the *Dutch*, the *Spaniard*, the *French*, the *Dane*, I am sure some of these will give *Cromwel's* red coats their belly full, and lend them to feed *Haddocks*. Mr. *Violet* told me this under the Seale of secrecie, for he knew it concerned both our lives to have it discovered. I do attest this, Mr. *Violet* told me a day or two before he made his protest in the Admiraltie, and several times since he from time to time told me he would sell himself to his shirt, but that he would compasse his design to set the Council of state in parties and factions, and the Parliament upon the *Dutch*, the day *Cromwel*, dissolved the Parliament being the 20. of April 1653. Mr. *Violet* acquainted me the Kings work was done, for now it was but a quarrel between the King and *Cromwel*, and that in a little time would make *Cromwel* go out like the snuff of candle, Mr. *Violet* having a great assurance of me, told me Cozen I have imparted this secret of my design against the pretended Parliament, *Bradshaw*, *Cromwel*, and the rest of the Traytors, to Mr. *Thomas Davis* the Kings Barber, Mr. *Humphrey Painter* the Kings Surgeon, Mr. *David Ramidge* of the Mint, who have all promised faithfully to me, to attest this to be true that I made them privy to this design, 1652. Whensoever it pleaseth God in his mercy to restore his Majesty, I do further attest that Mr. *Violet* hath severall times assisted me, to make my escape, when there was warrants upon a charge of High Treason both by *Cromwel* and *Bradshaw* for my apprehending; and hath gotten me passed beyond Seas by a wrong name, and this I am obliged in gratitude to Mr. *Violet* to certify, that I know upon my own knowledge from the first time of Mr. *Violet's* staying the Silver abovesaid 1652. Mr. *Violet* did it to divide and destroy the Parliament, the Councell of State, *Bradshaw*, *Cromwel*, and all their fellow Traytors, witness my hand.

20. Decemb. 1660.

Dd

Paul Smith

that Court of the Admiraltie fifty years, and never knew such an Affront and Contempt put on the Court as I had done. *Exon* desired I might be committed, but *Bradshaw*, *Cromwel*, and their party laughed at them, and chid the Iudges soundly for complaining of me, commended me for what I had done, and bid me proceed, which I was resolved to do without their encouragement, and I did it so effectually as Doctor *Walker* knows, and all this Court, that *Cromwel* got two hundred seventy eight thousand two hundred and fifty pounds, which enabled him to destroy the Rump Parliament, and so consequently himself and familie; All which I did maliciously to divide and destroy the Parliament, Council of State, Army, and by Gods assistance I compassed my end, with the charge of fifteen hundred pounds, and never received pennie from the State, as they called them. Now I tell Dr. *Walker*, Mr. *Dorilaus*, Mr. *Hill*, Mr. *Wilson*, *Cromwel's* Officers, my Reasons why I did it; formerly I durst not trust them, though they asked me; I took them all to be &c.

The 17. of Dec. 1652. by order of *Cromwel* and *Bradshaw*, and their party in the pretended Council of State, I went to the Court of Admiraltie, and the Silver in the Ships *Sampson*, *Salvador*, and *Georg*, being in judgment before Dr. *Exon*, Mr. *Bacon*, Dr. *Stephens*, many hundreds of Merchants being in the Admiraltie, I made my Protest against the Iudges of the Admiraltie, and all Proceedings of that Court, concerning the discharge of that Silver. And acted in that manner, that all the Iudges stood amazed, and stopped Judgment, & came in the Afternoon to complain of me to the Council of State, Dr. *Exon* declaring to *Bradshaw*, *Cromwel*, and the rest of the Traitors, That he had known

(26)
Major *Robert Amery*, his Certificate.

I *Robert Emery* of *Westminster* Gent. do hereby Certifie whom it may Concern, that I have been long Acquainted with Mr. *Tho Violet*, for the space of above twenty five years; And during the time of Mr. *Violets* Imprisonment in the Tower, for bringing up a Letter from his late Majestie of blessed Memory 1643. As soon as possible I could come to speak with him, I did make my Addresse to him; and upon a faithfull Promise of Secrecie he did acquaint me with several Busineses, which I was to enquire out the truth for his late Majesties Service: and I know at that time Mr. *Violet* at his own charge constantly employed Trusty Persons, to bring to him the Condition, and Actions, and Motions of several of the principal Rebels both in the City and Parliament, wherein I did freely contribute my Endeavours for his Majesties service, without penny satisfaction; And I know these Transactions was weekly, or as often as convenience and security would permit, sent down to his Majestie of blessed Memory, I do further Certifie, that before ever Mr. *Tho Violet* stayed the Dutch Silver, and had a Contest at the pretended Council of State, with *Don Alonso de Cardenas* the Spanish Ambassador, Mr. *Violet* in 1652. told me, That and he could perswade the Council of State, upon any pretence, to stay the Silver in the Ships *Sampson*, *Salvadore* and *George*, it would be good service to the King, that he had given to *Cromwell* and *Bradshaw* a Paper of Reasons for staying this Silver, and they were violently for it, and he hoped to blinde the major part of the pretended Council of State, that this Silver being stayed, would foment the warre with the Dutch, a great part of this

this Silver appertaining to the Merchants of *Amsterdam*, who at that time many of them played the Rebels in *Amsterdam*, against the Prince of *Orange*: And many of them using the distressed Cavalier but dirtily, the Dutch having plucked down the Kings Armes in the English Church, and set up the Commonwealths over *Strickland* and *St-Johns* Pew, or Seat. Saith Mr. *Violet*, if I can but set these two Rebels *London* and *Amsterdam* by the eares, to make them fight lustily, the Parliaments Red Coats will be excellent food for Haddockes; this war will revenge the Cavaliers, and when they are both wasted, the King and his Party shall come and sweep stakes with them both: That day *Cromwell* dissolved the Parliament. 20. April 1653. Mr. *Violet* came to my lodging and told me, It was the blessedest day that ever came to the King and his Party, for, saith Mr. *Violet*, the Parliament was a Corporation, the quarrel could never die between the Commonwealth, for still as long as that Monster continued, the House of Commons would be filled with new Elections, but the Parliament being destroyed, the work was done: this day layes the Cornerstone of the Kings Restoration, the quarrel now is with a single person, and *Cromwell* will be but a dead dog in the Kings hands. Thus much I do Certifie, that Mr. *Violet* told me before ever he stayed this Silver, he did it advisedly to destroy both the Parliament, *Bradshaw* and *Cromwell*, distract and confound the Council of State, and break them all into Factions. And that Mr. *Violet* was a principal Instrument in destroying them all, many others besides my self can tell, for though before the Kings blessed Return, Mr. *Violet* acted with many persons several, and under the Vow of Secrecie: Since June last Mr. *Violet* hath

hath drawn the Curtain, and can now openly declare every mans part, and how he joyned and set them together, *Mr. Violet* being highly instrumental to the Kings Majesties service, neither did *Mr. Violet* act in this businesse blindfold or rashly, he knew whom he trusted and employed, and they were all well assured of one anothers Activity and Faithfulnesse, or else they might have ended all of them their dayes in *Bradshaw* and *Cromwells* Slaughter-house, the truth is, God blinded both the Parliament and Council of State, especially those bloody Villains *Bradshaw* and *Cromwell*, or else they would never have believed or taken advice of an enraged *Enemie*, who coloured his Passion, and served *Cromwell* and *Bradshaw* as the Friar served King *John* (*Wassell my Liege*). They all should have remembred the Rule, Trust not a reconciled *Enemie*, especially when you have robbed him, and oppressed him, and never made Restitution. That this Narrative is true, I have hereunto set my Hand: And that to my particular knowledge, *Mr. Violet* is damned for bringing up the late King of Glorious Memories Letter, by his Sequestration and Imprisonment, above twenty thousand pounds sterling. Witnesse my Hand,

Dec. 20, 1660.

ROBERT AMERY

Cap. Henry Brockden his Certificate.

Upon intreaty of *Mr. Thomas Violet*, I do certify all persons whom it may concern, that I was severall times commanded by his late Majesty of blessed memory, his Majesties Royal Father, to bring from his Majesty severall messages, sometimes by word of mouth, sometimes by writing under his Sacred Majesties hand, unto *Mr. Thomas Violet* then a Prisoner in the Tower for his Majesties service: I did for about a year and a half, from 1645 to 1647.

1647. deliber to Mr. Tho. Violet severall Letters written with his Majesties own hand, and I returned the answer of them under Mr. Violets hand to his Majestie, and sometimes by word of mouth to avoid danger of intercepting of his Letters. And to my own knowledg, his Majestie was pleased to let a very high bawle of such information as Mr. Violet constantly sent him, for he told me he would be carefull before ever he writ to the King, to be sure never to have it disproved. His Majestie, I well remember, commanded me to bring Mr. Violet out of the Tower to him to Hampton Court, his Majestie hearing that Mr. Violet during his mothers sicknesse had libertie with a Keeper to go and see her.

Thereupon saith his Majestie, Brockden I must have you contrive a way that I may speak with him, thereupon I made Mr. Violet acquainted with the Kings pleasure, and shortly after he so ordered the businesse with his Keeper old White of the Tower a Barber, that White gave him leave to lie out all night upon Mr. Violets pretence to be merry in London with some friends; his Majestie commanded me, Mr. Violet should lie private at Kingston when he came down till night, and then I was to acquaint his Majestie, and he to order where, and when Mr. Violet should come to speak with him, thereupon I made his Majestie acquainted Mr. Violet waited his pleasure at Kingston, and his Majestie sent for Mr. Hugh Hen, and Mr. Patrick Naper, and commanded them Violet should be hid behind the Hangings in his bed-chamber, till he called for him; thereupon Mr. Violet was placed there, and to avoid searching, delivers to me his packet of papers for his Majestie; Col. Whaley waited that night on the King, and severall times came in and out of the Kings Bed-chamber, which put Mr. Violet (as he that night told me) into a great fright, for had he been taken there, being then a Prisoner in the Tower, he had lost his life, and had I been taken with the papers Mr. Violet brought down, I found so much by them, we had both been served as Tompkins and Chaloner was. I only was by Mr. Violet when the King came into the Room, which was his Bed-chamber, and after Whaley had stayed some time, and taken his leave of the King for all night, the King cleared the Room, and sent every man out but myself and Mr. Violet, who was concealed behind the Hangings, thereupon his Majestie bid me call Mr. Violet forth, and

Mr. Violet gave old White ten pounds to let him lie out of the Tower one night, and White would never have given his consent till he had his money; he apprehended whether he went, or else he would never have given that money ever after he observed old White to love the Cavaliers, and to solicit their business.

indeed he was soze affrighted with his two houres standing at that place and posture, he being then Prisoner in the Tower, his Majestie received him gladly, and asked him whither he had brought the papers as the King had ordered him by me to do, I thereupon plucked them out of my pocket, and his Majestie was graciously pleased to give us both thanks, saying, I trust God will mend these times, that I shall be able to requite your faithful service in deeds, in the meantime you have my Royal Word, the papers I partly remember, and I think it were highly for his Majesties service, that Dr. Violet gave his Majesty himself the Copies of them; after above an houres stay, his Majesty commanded Dr. Hugh Hen to let us out by the Park, and to bring the King word if we were stayed or intercepted that night; the King delibered to us a packet of Letters, saying, deliver these to Lewis Dives, he will find news in it, and so we returned for Kingston; when I delivered the Kings Letter to Sir Lewis Dives, he asked me of the business I had with his Majesty, I would conceal nothing from him and told him: but finding that neither Dr. Violet nor I spoke any thing of what the King had writ to him, Sir Lewis Dives said nothing more then, within few dayes you will hear strange newes, and when it was brought to London the King is going from Hampton Court, Sir Lewis Dives shewed me the Kings Letter, which I brought up but the day before from Hampton Court, where the King acquainted him with his intended remove from Hampton Court. This I certify to be a truth, and that all persons may know the many hazards, both Sir Lewis Dives, Dr. Violet and my self weekly and daily hazarding our lives for his Majestie of blessed memory, many score of times to my knowledg, I being the constant messenger.

Decemb. 22. 1660.

HENRY BROCKDEN.

Sir Lewis Dives Knight his Certificate.

UPon the entreaty of Dr. Tho. Violet I do certify whom it may concern, That Dr. Tho. Violet was committed close prisoner to the Tower of London 1643 by the Parliament

ment for bringing up Letters from Oxford for the Kings Majesties Royal Father of blessed memory to his City of London, directed to the Lord Mayor, Court of Aldermen, &c. That I well remember Mr. Violet had put it in painting over his Chimney, that he was close Prisoner in that Room 928. daies, I being often in his Room afterwards when we had Liberty in the Tower, one Prisoner to see another; I do certifie that I often trusted Mr. Violet to act by his Instruments in the City, to get what information I did conceive was for his Late Majesties service, wherein I alwaies found Mr. Violet to be secret, and very active, and Instrumental in many and several occasions, to get true Information of the then present Actions of the Rebels both in the Parliament and City of London. I do attest that on my own knowledge the Late Kings Majesty sent for Violet, if possible, to come to speak with him at Hampton Court. And Mr. Violet so ordered his businesse with his Keeper old White the Warder, that he went out of the Tower, with one Captain Hen. Brockden, who was much employed between his late Majesty and his friends, and lay a night out of the Tower. And the Lieutenant of the Tower, never missed him, but the key of his Chamber was carried up to the Lieut. of the Tower, as if Mr. Violet had lodged in the Tower all night. This I know to be true, for I was privy to his going out of the Tower upon the late Kings desire to speak privately with him. Mr. Violet can if he please tell the businesse for what the King sent for him, I refer that to him, But I do attest this to be the truth,

I sent my man
purposely over
into *London* to
desire Mr. *Vio-*
let without fail
(for it concer-
ned my life,) to
command spe-
k with me this
night I made
my escape
from *South-*
wark and with
our advice
and assistance,
I could not have
contrived a
way to save my
life, he being
acquainted
with some of
my Keepers
that were set to
watch me, I
knew his inge-
nuity could
take my Keep-
ers away from
me, upon his
own pretences,
which part I
could not act
without him,
which he did
for me most
faithfully and
succesfully,
and next to
God I owe to
Mr. *Violet* for
preserving my
life from that
extream dan-
ger I was in.

Le. Dives.

true, and that Mr. Violet brought Letters from
his Late Majesty to me to the Tower, wherein
the Kings Majesty imparted to me his going from
Hampton Court, and several other particulars the
night before he made his escape to the Isle of
Wight. And to my particular knowledge his Late
Majesty had a very great confidence & assurance of
the activity and faithfulness of Mr. Thomas Violet,
whose ability, faith and integrity to his Late Ma-
jesty I do hereby attest, and I attest upon my
own knowledge experimentally of the man, that
he is able to put any shape and mould on himself
to compass his design. And in this I have often
in the Tower by his Late Majesties Command
put him to Act several businesses for his Majesties
service. And I trusted so much in his activity and
fidelity, that when I made my escape from Sir
John Lenthal in Southwark; where had I continued,
the pretended Parliament had taken away my life,
while I made my escape, Mr. Violet kept one Tout,
(that Sir John Lenthal had imployed to see me that
night put into the Prison-house,) a drinking in the
Tabern. And when Mr. Violet could keep Tout no
longer, he held Tout in discourse in a dark alley,
while I escaped by Tout, but Mr. Violet see me pass,
and afterwards he took order to get my man out
of prison, whom the Parliament had committed
for being instrumental in my escape

The exact truth of this Relation I am obliged to testify, as well in gra-
titude as justice to Mr. *Violet*, that his Majesty may be satisfied in
the person of the signal services and many hazzards Mr. *Violet* hath
run in the performance of them, wherein I have likewise had my share,
witness my hand,

Dec. 24 1660.

LEWIS DIVES.

